

# Soviet Journal Accuses CIA of Threats Against Aide to Russ U.N. Ambassador

From Reuters

MOSCOW—A Moscow journal Tuesday accused the Central Intelligence Agency of trying to obtain information by threatening an aide to the Soviet U.N. ambassador, Yakov Malik.

The weekly Literary Gazette said the Soviet Foreign Ministry already had made an official representation to the U.S. Embassy here about what the weekly called "the brazen provocation" by the CIA against Soviet diplomat Oleg Kharchenko.

Kharchenko, a second secretary at the Soviet U.N. mission, reported the alleged incident on July 16 and has since returned to the Soviet Union, the journal said.

In Washington, the State Department confirmed that the Soviet Union had protested on July 29 a "provocation" by American intelligence against one of its diplomats assigned to the United Nations.

The protest, however, did not refer to any threats against the life of the diplomat, Oleg Kharchenko, as Literary Gazette charged, a Department spokesman said.

The Literary Gazette said two CIA agents, whom it named only as Mr. Bryant and a younger man called Bob, first suggested a deal under which they would supply Kharchenko with useful political information in return for information on the Soviet Union's real intentions in pursuing detente.

When the Soviet diplomat refused, they reportedly first threatened to wreck his career. Then they warned him that if he "fell" from the window of the hotel room where they had met, newspapers would report it as a suicide, according to the Gazette.

The Literary Gazette, which gave no further details of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's protest, said Kharchenko was invited to the room in the first place by two plainclothes detectives, whom it named as William O'Brien and William O'Rourke.

The Soviet diplomat had got to know them when they were guarding the hospital ward where Malik was treated after a car accident in March, the report said.

On July 16, they invited Kharchenko to renew the friendship over drinks at the New York Hilton Hotel, the account said.

From the bar they invited him to their room where they were joined by the two CIA men, the Soviet journal said.

After the detectives left the room, "Mr. Bryant" and "Bob" allegedly told the Soviet diplomat they were from the CIA and knew everything about him and his job.

The gazette quoted Bryant as saying that CIA chief George Bush would be personally appreciative if Kharchenko passed on information to which he had access through his job at the mission. "Do not misunderstand us," it quoted him as saying.

According to Literary Gazette, the agent named Bob told the Soviet diplomat: "We just want to know how sincerely your government conducts the policy of detente."

In return, they offered to feed the Soviet diplomat information of interest to his superiors which would help him to make a brilliant career, the Literary Gazette said.

"When they heard from Kharchenko that he had difficulty understanding the point of the meeting with Mr. Bryant, and that the situation, to put it mildly, was not at all to his liking, the 'specialists on detente' started making threats," the journal said.

Bryant told Kharchenko that the only way out of the room was through the window and that newspapers would report that "an unidentified man has done away with himself," according to the report.

But the CIA men backed down from the threat after a short pause in the conversation and gave Kharchenko three days, until the following Monday, to think things over, the journal added.

Kharchenko reported the matter the same day to his superiors at the mission and by Sunday had arrived home in the Soviet Union, the report said.